

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENTI 07957 01 OF 02 231201Z

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 DODE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 H-03 OMB-01 ABF-01 AID-20

PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 A-01 SY-10 DRC-01 /123 W

----- 064171

R 231040Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6725

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENTIANE 7957

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, MOPS,LA

SUBJECT: QUARTERLY REPORT TO SFRC ON LAOS

HEREWITH MISSION REPORT FOR THIRD QUARTER CH-73,
WITH FORMAT CHANGES TO ACCOMODATE INTEGRATION OF
LIF INTO FAR.

1. U.S. PERSONNEL IN LAOS (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 73): 894

A. CIVILIAN DIRECT HIRE: 415

B. MILITARY: 201

(1) DAO -- 39

(2) PROJECT 404 (INCLUDING TDY TO PROJECT 404): 145

(3) MARINE GAURDS AND U.S. NAVY: 17

C. PERSONNEL ON TEMPORARY DUTY (LESS PROJECT 404): 16

(1) CIVILIAN: 6

(2) MILITARY (LESS TDY PROJECT 404): 10

D. CONTRACT EMPLOYEES: 262

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PAGE 02 VIENTI 07957 01 OF 02 231201Z

2. FRIENDLY MILITARY FORCES: 88,265

A. FAR/FAN: 73/497

B. LAO IRREGULAR LOCAL DEFENSE FORCES (ADC/ADO): 6,397

C. THAI VOLUNTEERS IN RLG IRREGULAR FORCES IN LAOS: 8,371

3. ESTIMATED ENEMY FORCES IN LAOS (AS OF END THIRD
QUARTER CY-73): 89,000

A. NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) (EXCLUDING THOSE
ENEMY FORCES TRANSITTING LAOS VIA HO CHI MINH
TRAIL SYSTEM): 58,000

B. LAO PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY (LPLA OR
"PATHET LAO"): 29,000

C. DISSIDENT NEUTRALISTS (DN): 2,000

4. ROYAL LAO AIR FORCE (RLAF) OPERATIONS IN LAOS:

A. TACTICAL AIR COMBAT SORTIES (T-28): 96

B. GUNSHIP/FLARESHIP COMBAT SORTIES (AC/UC-
RUL: 13

C. AIR TRANSPORT SORTIES (C-47/H-34 AND C-123): 5,987

5. CASUALTIES IN LAOS

A. U.S. MISSION PERSONNEL: ZERO

B. FAR/FAN/IRREGULAR LOCAL DEFENSE: 46 KILLED,
174 WOUNDED

C. THAI VOLUNTEERS: 15 KILLED, 70 WOUNDED

D. NVA/LPLA/DN: 90 KILLED 124 ESTIMATED KILLED
OR WOUNDED

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PAGE 03 VIENTI 07957 01 OF 02 231201Z

6. USG MILITARY CONTRACTS OR AGREEMENTS: ONE

7. U.S. MISSION PERSONNEL MISSING IN ACTION IN LAOS: ZERO

8. FOLLOWING EXPLANATIONS APPLY TO ABOVE ENTRIES:

PARA 1(B) -- DAO, ESTABLISHED AUGUST 15, 1973, INCORPORATED

ARMY AND AIR ATTACHE STAFFS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED SEPARATELY.
INCREASE OF 11 DUE TO TRANSFER OF DEPCHIEF LOGISTICS PERSONNEL
TO DAO TO PERFORM FUNCTIONS PREVIOUSLY DONE BY REQUIREMENTS
OFFICE.

PARA 1(D) -- DECREASE OF 208 MAINLY DUE TO REDUCED AIR
CONTRACTOR SUPPORT AND TERMINATION OF AIR AMERICA VIENTIANE-
BASED FLYING OPERATIONS.

PARA 2(A) -- FIGURE INCLUDES RLAF STRENGTH OF 2,278.

PARA 2(C) -- DOES NOT INCLUDE 1,436 THAI VOLUNTEERS IN
THAILAND IN TRAINING OR ON LEAVE.

PARA 3(A) -- DECREASE (12,000) FROM PREVIOUS REPORT DUE
TO TEMPORARY SEASONAL MOVEMENT OF SEVERAL HO CHI MINH TRAIL
SERVICE/SUPPLY UNITS. HOWEVER, MAJOR PORTION EXPECTED TO
RETURN TO SOUTHERN LAOS AS WEATHER, AND ROAD CONDITIONS
IMPROVE.

PARA 3(B) -- DECREASE (11,500) FROM PREVIOUS REPORT
DUE TO IMPROVED INTELLIGENCE REPORTING AND ANALYSIS; INDICA-
TIONS POINT TO LARGE NUMBER OF PL UNITS OPERATING AT REDUCED
STRENGTH.

PARA 3(C) -- FIGURE OF 2,000 INCLUDES KHAMMOUANE NEUTRALISTS
(APPROX 1,000) ON WHOM WE HAVE HAD LITTLE INTELLIGENCE RE-
PORTING SINCE 1968, EXCEPT FOR THEIR FREQUENT MENTION IN RECENT
PL PROPAGANDA.

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 07957 02 OF 02 231211Z

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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CINCPAC

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENTIANE 7957

PARA 4(C) -- INCREASE OF 2,198 REFLECTS INTRODUCTION OF C-123 AIRCRAFT INTO RLAF INVENTORY AND RLAF TAKING OVER GREATER CARGO HAULING RESPONSIBILITIES FROM US AIR CONTRACTORS.

PARA 5 (B AND C) -- SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE OF THESE CASUALTIES DUE TO MINE INCIDENTS, NOT COMBAT ACTIVITY.

PARA 5(D) -- FIGURE OF 90 KILLED IS CONSIDERED HARD AND RELATIVELY CONSERVATIVE, AND INCLUDES BOTH KIA KBA. FIGURE OF 124 ESTIMATED KILLED OR WOUNDED INCLUDES PROBABLE KIA/ KBA/WIA/WBA. ADDRESSEES ARE WELL AWARE OF DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING FORM DATA ON ENEMY CASUALTIES.

PARA 6 -- ONE - AUGUST 15, 1973. AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH THE DAO CONTAINED IN LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER TO CHARGE.

PARA 7 -- CASI PILOT EMMET KAY REMAINS A PRISONER OF PL. ONE AIR CONTRACTOR PILOT KILLED IN AIR CRASH IN JULY. ONE AIR CONTRACTOR PILOT KILLED WHEN AIRCRAFT HIT BY GROUND FIRE IN AUGUST.

PARA 2(B) -- ADC/ADO FORMERLY REPORTED SEPARATELY. COM-
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 07957 02 OF 02 231211Z

BINED TOTAL FOR THIRD QUARTER IS 1,639 LESS THAN SAME COMBINATION FOR SECOND QUARTER (8,036). DROP IS DUE TO NORMAL ATTRITION AND REDUCED INTEREST OF LOCAL FARMERS.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 23 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
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ISecure: 1
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005